ATLAS
GUNSMOKE WESTERN
KID COLT AND BILLY BUCKSKIN IN
GUNSMOKE
WESTERN
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
10¢
FEB.
NO. 33
ALL NEW TALES!
KID COLT and "THE GUNMAN!"
RUSS HEATH
BILLY BUCKSKIN in "SCOURGE OF THE FRONTIER!"

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ALL NEW TALES!

KID COLT *and* "THE GUNMAN!"

BILLY BUCKSKIN *in* "SCOURGE OF THE FRONTIER!"

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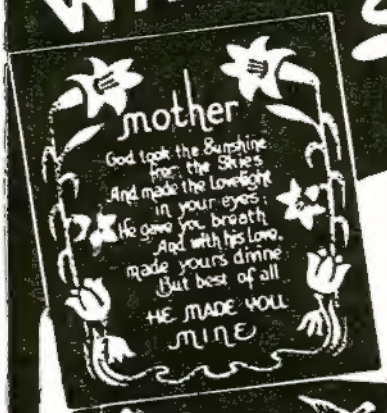

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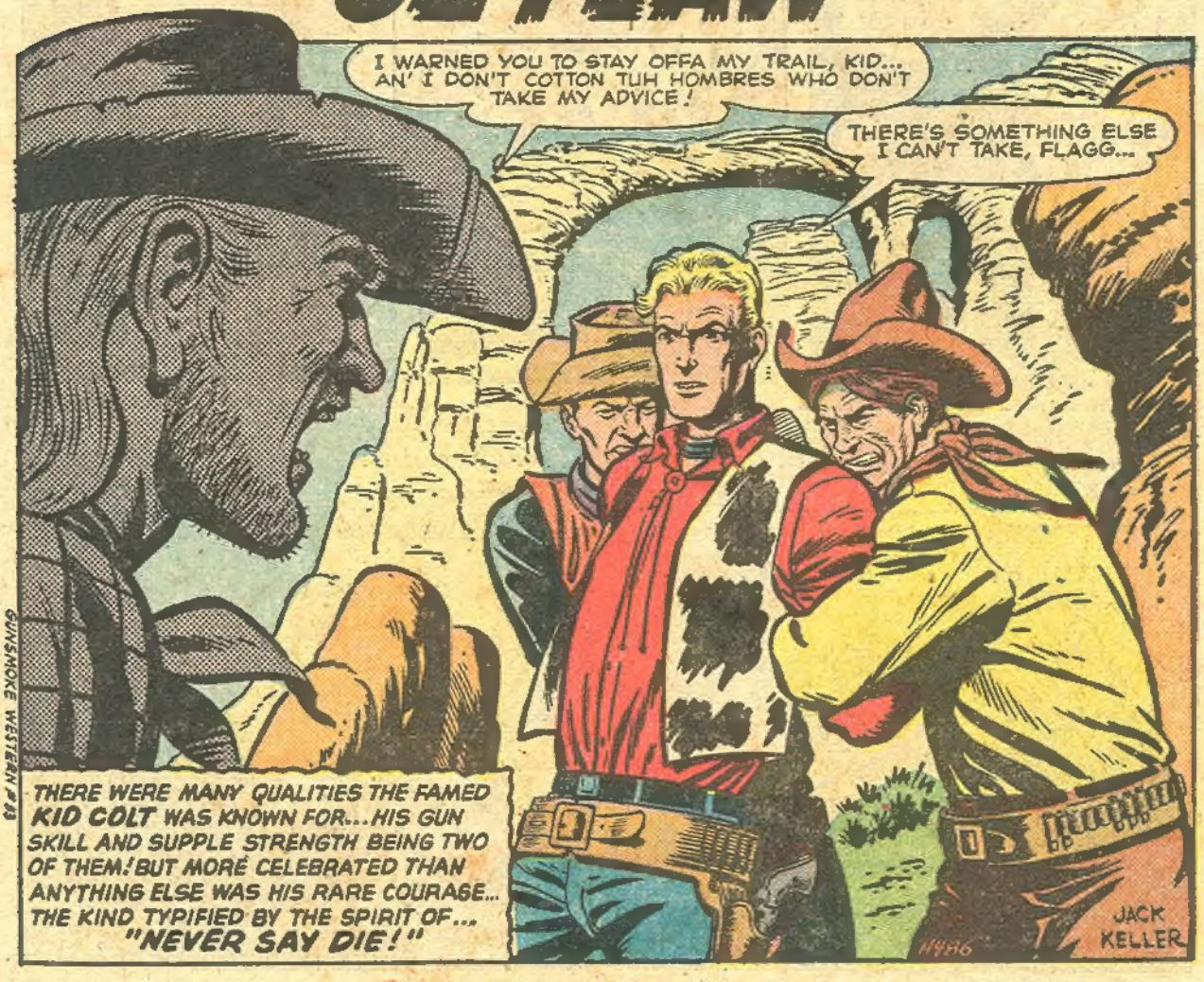
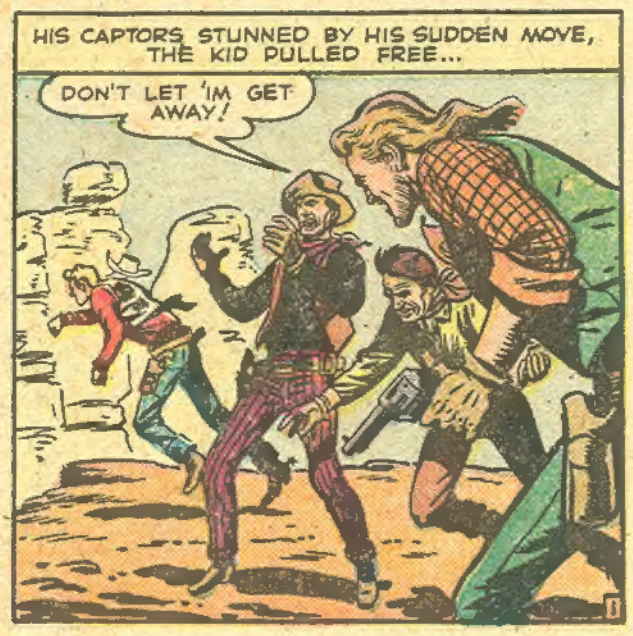
KID COLT OUTLAW


I WARNED YOU TO STAY OFFA MY TRAIL, KID... AN' I DON'T COTTON TUH HOMBRES WHO DON'T TAKE MY ADVICE!
THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE I CAN'T TAKE, FLAGG...
THERE WERE MANY QUALITIES THE FAMED KID COLT WAS KNOWN FOR...HIS GUN SKILL AND SUPPLE STRENGTH BEING TWO OF THEM! BUT MORE CELEBRATED THAN ANYTHING ELSE WAS HIS RARE COURAGE... THE KIND TYPIFIED BY THE SPIRIT OF... "NEVER SAY DIE!"
JACK KELLER

GUNSMOKE WESTERN #3



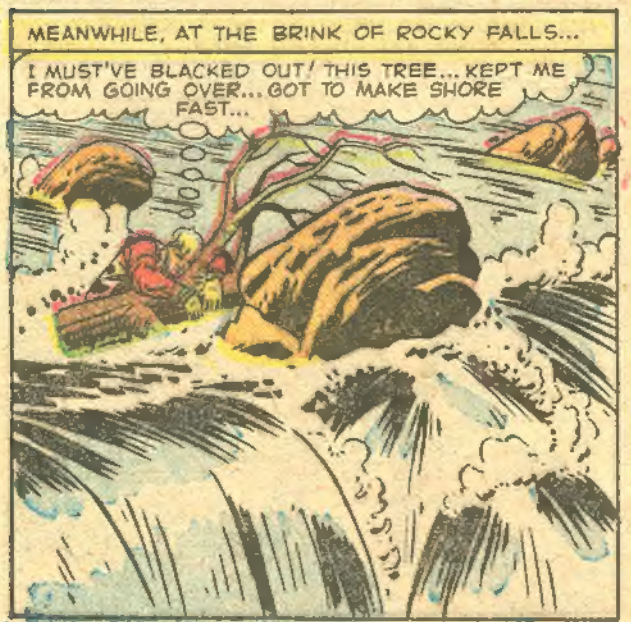
BUT A SECOND LATER BEFORE THEIR STARTLED EYES...
HE JUMPED!

SPLASH

HE'S BEIN' SWEPT ALONG BY THE CURRENT! IN FIVE MINUTES HE'LL BE OVER THE ROCKY FALLS!
NOW AIN'T THAT A PITY, KEYES! A REAL CRYIN' SHAME!

WITH COLT GONE, WE'RE IN THE CLEAR! HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO TIED US IN WITH THE BANK ROBBERY IN MESA CITY! WE'LL RIDE SOUTH AND DIVIDE THE LOOT WHEN WE GET TO THREE-RIVERS!
WHY DON'T WE DIVIDE IT NOW?

BECAUSE I SAID LATER... OR DO YUH WANNA MAKE SOMETHIN' OF IT?
I WAS ONLY ASKIN', FLAGG! PUT UP YORE HARDWARE!


MEANWHILE, AT THE BRINK OF ROCKY FALLS...
I MUST'VE BLACKED OUT! THIS TREE... KEPT ME FROM GOING OVER... GOT TO MAKE SHORE FAST...

WITH ONLY SLIPPERY BOULDERS TO SUPPORT HIS BRUISED BODY, THE KID PICKED HIS WAY ACROSS THE TREACHEROUS RAPIDS...
JUST A LITTLE MORE TO GO! I'LL MAKE IT...

WHEN HE REACHED SHORE, A FAMILIAR SOUND BROUGHT A TIRED SMILE TO HIS LIPS...
IT'S GOOD OLD STEEL! I KNEW HE'D FIND ME!
THAT'S THE WAY... STEADY! I DON'T KNOW WHICH WAY TO GO...OR WHERE TO BEGIN, BUT MAYBE LUCK'LL PLAY A HAND AND SHOW US THE WAY!
WITH THE COMING OF DUSK, A LOW SOUND BROUGHT HIM UP SHARP...
(GROAN...)
THAT NOISE FROM BEHIND THE BOULDERS!
BUT WHEN HE STEPPED BEHIND THE BOULDERS...
COLT! IT CAN'T BE! Y-YOU WERE SWEPT AWAY... SAW IT WITH... MY OWN EYES...
IT'S ME ALL RIGHT!
DON'T COME NEAR ME... KEEP AWAY! YOU'RE NOT GONNA...
HOLD ON, KEYES!
YOU'RE IN NO CONDITION TO PICK A FIGHT! YOU'RE IN PRETTY BAD SHAPE!
NOW WHAT'S THE STORY, KEYES? LET'S HAVE IT STRAIGHT!
FLAGG...HE GUNNED ME! KEPT PUTTIN' OFF DIVIDING THE LOOT! HE PROMISED WE'D DO IT WHEN WE GOT TO THREE RIVERS...THEN HE CHANGED HIS MIND! WE ARGUED... THEN THE SHOOTIN' FOLLOWED!
3

HERE... HAVE YOURSELF A GOOD DRINK, THEN TRY TO GET SOME REST!
I WOULDN'T SUGGEST YOUR TRYING TO RIDE OFF, KEYES! BETTER STAY PUT AND CONSERVE YOUR STRENGTH! I'LL DO MY BEST IN TRACKING DOWN YOUR PALS!
THEY'RE NOT MY PALS ANY MORE!
LATER THAT NIGHT, AT A SMALL CAMPFIRE...
I FEEL FUNNY ABOUT LEAVIN' KEYES THE WAY WE DID, CONSIDERIN' WE ALL STARTED OUT TOGETHER!
STOP BLUBBERIN' AND GIVE ME SOME COFFEE!
...OR MEBBE YOU'RE WORRYIN' TOO... ABOUT WHEN WE DIVIDE THE LOOT!
NO, FLAGG! I AIN'T WORRIED!
BUT AS THE NIGHT DRAGGED ON AND SLEEP WOULDN'T COME...
I AM WORRIED! IT FIGGERS THAT FLAGG MIGHT TRY TO CUT ME OUT, TOO! WHY NOT? HE DID IT TO KEYES!
HE'S SLEEPING LIKE A LOG, AN' THAR'S THE POUCH! THE SMART THING TO DO IS LIFT IT REAL EASY AN' TAKE OFF...
SUDDENLY...
SO THAT'S YORE GAME! I FIGGERED YOU'D TRY A SNEAKY STUNT LIKE THIS!
HOLD ON, FLAGG! IT AIN'T WHAT YUH THINK!
4

SHOOTING... FROM OFF YONDER! LET'S GO, BOY!
ALL RIGHT, FLAGG...YOU'VE DONE YOUR LAST PIECE OF DIRTY WORK!
YOU AGAIN!
I'LL FINISH YUH...OHHHH!
YOU'VE MEDDLED FOR THE LAST TIME!
I'M GONNA... OHHHHH!
KEYES!
I HAD TUH COME, KID! FORGOT TO THANK YUH PROPER FOR THE WATER!
5
AFTER FIXING UP THE WOUNDED MEN, THE KID HERDED HIS CAPTIVES BACK TO MESA CITY, WHERE SWIFT JUSTICE AWAITED THEM...
IT HAD TO END THIS WAY, FLAGG! A MAN'S GREED WILL ALWAYS DESTROY HIM!
THE END

LAW AND ORDER

THE letter had come by the late mail. It was almost four o'clock in the afternoon when he opened it. He didn't read it straight off, for memories came back. He hadn't seen his brother Joe for almost fifteen years, not since he'd left Prairieville for the East and a law career. They'd corresponded now and again, the first few years until, finally, Joe had taken off for California. Walt Merrow had wound up in a small town and hung out a shingle. It fed him, but it didn't satisfy the hunger he had for home.

He noted the postmark on the envelope: Prairieville. Apparently, Joe had come back now, somehow, located him, probably through a state legal directory. Then he read the letter. It said:

". . . about time we both settled down at home. I'm married, got two growing kids. Prairieville's growing, too; got to be a big cattle center, but there's plenty of dubious characters moving in. Nothing illegal yet, and we're hoping there won't be. But what we really need is a good law man. I've never forgotten your war record, Walt, and I've already mentioned your name to the folks around town. I don't know how well you're doing where you are, but you've got a job here any time you want. What's more we need you . . ."

In the morning, Walt Merrow boarded the train for Prairieville. And thirty-two hours later, after traversing mountain and desert country, he got off at the Prairieville spur terminal. His brother hadn't exaggerated when he'd said Prairieville was growing. Main Street was four times as long as when he'd known it. The bank was no longer of wood, but built of neat red brick. It was a bustling town, still "frontier" because there still wasn't an organized state government. The streets were thronged with men in ten gallon hats and rough, leather boots. Most were unshaven. They swaggered up and down.

It was in front of the Graham House Hotel that the lawyer suddenly bumped into his brother, Joe. They recognized each other immediately and with loud and brotherly greetings in the cordial western manner. Joe insisted on treating his brother to a meal at the hotel.

Walt had expected to relax a little after dinner, but Joe insisted on proceeding immediately to a meeting of the town council, a semi-official group as there was, as yet, no actual mayor and responsible group of trustees.

"We'll pick up your bags at the station later," Joe said. "Right now, we need action!"

"What's the hurry?" Walt asked.

"You see the kind of galoots thronging the streets, don't you?" Joe asked. "They're tough, probably ready for anything. I told you this country was getting to be important. The place is loaded with money . . . and anything's liable to pop any minute!"

Walt Merrow looked at his brother for a moment, then shrugged.

"Okay," he said. "Let's go."

An interview with some of the town's prominent citizens who comprised the council was gotten through in less than half an hour.

"But I'm a lawyer," Walt protested, "not a Sheriff!"

"You're the eldest son of Fighting Tom Merrow, the best Sheriff this Territory ever had," Charles Hanslow, the president of the bank, said. "We know your war record, Walt, how handy you were with a gun. Got a medal for marksmanship, didn't you?"

Walt nodded. "Yes, but . . ."

"No buts about it," Hanslow continued. "Prairieville's a real town now, and due for a real government. We're organizing tomorrow. That means there'll be trouble from the lawless elements . . . and that's where *you* come in!"

"Just what lawless elements do you mean?" Walt asked quietly.

"You saw them . . . they're in the streets, the usual flotsam and jetsam attracted to a boom town. I know you're a lawyer, and I know you're also good Sheriff material. You handle this job, Walt, and Prairieville will be grateful. We could use a good lawyer, too . . ."

Walt Merrow stood up.

"All right," he said. "I'll do it, but only because I aim to live in this town and because it deserves peace . . . but I'll have to handle this my own way . . ."

"We know what way you mean, Walt," his brother broke

CONTINUED BEFORE LAST STORY

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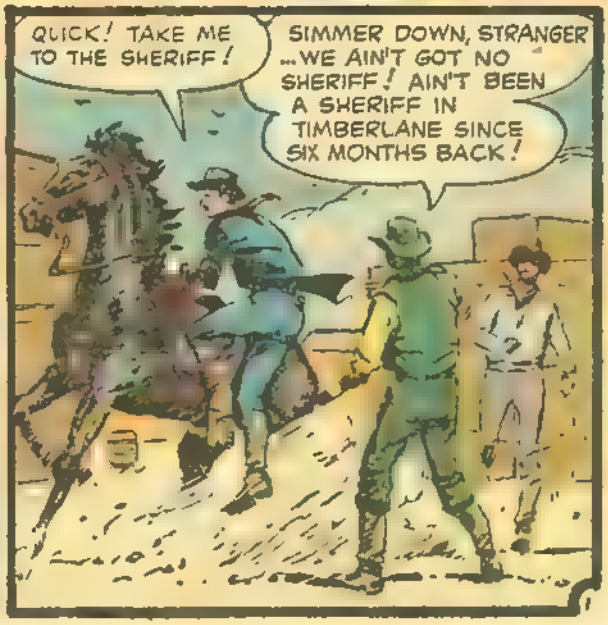
THE SILVER STAR!

HE RODE AS THOUGH A WOLF PACK WAS AT HIS HEELS... THIS STRANGER WHO GALLOPED INTO TIMBERLANE, TEXAS! AND A CHAIN OF EVENTS BEGAN WHICH WAS TO LEAVE A MARK ON TIMBERLANE WHICH TIME COULD NEVER ERASE!


QUICK! TAKE ME TO THE SHERIFF!
SIMMER DOWN, STRANGER ...WE AIN'T GOT NO SHERIFF! AIN'T BEEN A SHERIFF IN TIMBERLANE SINCE SIX MONTHS BACK!

BUT I WAS ROBBED JUST OUTSIDE OF TOWN... TWO MEN, THEY TOOK MY MONEY BELT AND MY RIFLE!
THEY WUZ THE JOOKS BROTHERS, MORE'N LIKELY! THEY'S ALWAYS DOIN' THINGS LIKE THAT!
BUT IF THERE'S NO SHERIFF, WHAT CAN I DO? WHO'LL CATCH 'EM? WHY ISN'T THERE A SHERIFF TO DEAL WITH THE JOOKS BROTHERS?!!
'CAUSE THE JOOKS RUN THE LAST ONE OUTA TOWN!
HE'S PLUMB RIGHT, STRANGER! AND NO ONE'LL WEAR A BADGE NOW, 'CAUSE THE JOOKS SWORE TO GUN DOWN THE FIRST HOMBRE TO WEAR ONE!
HERE THEY COME NOW!
HOWDY, STRANGER, AIN'T WE MET SOMEWHERES BEFORE?
OF COURSE WE DID... YOU JUST ROBBED ME! ARREST HIM, SOMEBODY, HE'S THE MAN!
DIDJA HEAR WHUT HE SAID, CLEM... ARREST ME?
HAW... HAW... AIN'T THAT ONE FOR THE BOOK?!!
ISN'T ANYONE GONNA DO SOMETHING?
YEAH, STRANGER YOU ARE... DANCE!
HAW! HAW! HAW!
NO... DON'T... WATCH OUT! HELP!

ABOUT 15 MINUTES LATER...
THEY...THEY MADE A LAUGHING-STOCK OF ME... OF THE LAW AND NO ONE DARED TO STOP THEM...
BACK EAST WHERE I COME FROM, THIS COULDN'T HAPPEN .. BUT HERE THINGS SEEM TO BE DIFFERENT! I'M LEARNING FAST!
HERE, A MAN'S PROWESS W TH H.S WEAPONS SEEMS TO BE THE MOST IMPORTANT THING! THE FAST DRAW... THE SHARP EYE... THE COOL NERVE.
WANT A ROOM, STRANGER?
YES... AND I WANT TO BUY A GUN!
THE NEXT SIX MONTHS FLEW BY, THE STRANGER SPENT EVERY WAKING MINUTE ON A LONELY HILL WITH HIS COLT... ALL HIS MONEY WENT FOR AMMUNITION... AND ALL HIS THOUGHTS WERE CENTERED ON ONE THING... A SIX-POINTED STAR!
FINALLY HE WAS READY...
ARE YOU FOLKS STILL LOOKIN' FOR A MAN TO WEAR THE SHERIFF'S STAR?
WE SURE ARE!
WELL, YOU'VE FOUND HIM!

HERE'S YER OFFICE, SHERIFF, ALL NEAT'N CLEAN! ANYTHING ELSE I CAN DO FER YUH?
YES...TELL ME WHERE CAN I FIND THE JOOKS BROTHERS?
AND SO...
LOOK, CLEM... AIN'T THAT A HOMBRE COMIN' ALONE DOWN THE TRAIL... WEARIN' A BADGE?
IT SURE IS! HAND ME MUH IRON!
BUT THE STRANGER CAUGHT THE GLINT OF CLEM JOOKS' STEEL BARREL IN THE SUN, AND HE SLID QUICKLY OFF HIS PONY AS A BULLET WHIZZED BY HARMLESSLY OVER HIS HEAD!
HE SHOT THAT GUN PLUMB OUTA YORE HAND, CLEM! AIN'T NO JASPER IN THESE PARTS CAN SHOOT LIKE THAT!
SHUT YORE MOUTH AND TAKE COVER!
LISTEN TO ME, MEN! I'M ARRESTIN' YUH FOR ROBBERY AND ATTEMPTED MURDER! WILL YOU COME PEACEFUL?
YOU WON'T LEAVE HERE ALIVE!

WITH APPARENT DISREGARD FOR HIS OWN LIFE, THE MAN WEARING THE SILVER STAR STEPPED OUT INTO THE OPEN... EMPTY-HANDED!
I'M GIVIN' YOU YORE LAST CHANCE TO SURRENDER!
NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO GUN HIM DOWN!
TWO SHOTS RANG OUT IN ANSWER TO THE SHERIFF! BUT IN ONE LIGHTNING-LIKE MOVEMENT HE HAD DROPPED TO THE GROUND... TWIN COLTS APPEARING IN HIS HANDS AS IF BY MAGIC AS HE FELL...
WITHIN FIVE SECONDS, CLEM JOOKS' GUN ARM WAS SHOT AND HE WAS DISARMED!
AND HIS BROTHER SETH ABJECTLY SURRENDERED WHEN HE RAN OUT OF AMMO ...SHOWING HIS COLORS BY WHINING FOR MERCY!
DON'T SHOOT ME, SHERIFF! I DIDN'T MEAN NO HARM!
'COURSE NOT, AMIGO.. YUH WERE ONLY SHOOTIN' AT ME TO SAY HELLO!
AND SO, BACK IN TOWN...
SHERIFF, WE'LL PAY YUH ANYTHING YUH ASK, JUST SO LONG'S YUH DON'T GO BACK EAST AGAIN! WE NEED YUH AROUND HERE!
DON'T WORRY, I AIN'T LEAVIN'! I HAVE TO STAY OUT HERE FOR MY HEALTH!
WE NEVER DID GET YORE NAME!
IT'S HOLLIDAY... SOME FOLKS CALL ME "DOC", 'CAUSE I USED TO STUDY MEDICINE!
WELL, DOC HOLLIDAY ...I GOT A NOTION YO'RE GONNA MAKE A NAME FOR YERSELF OUT HERE IN THE WEST!
THE END
6

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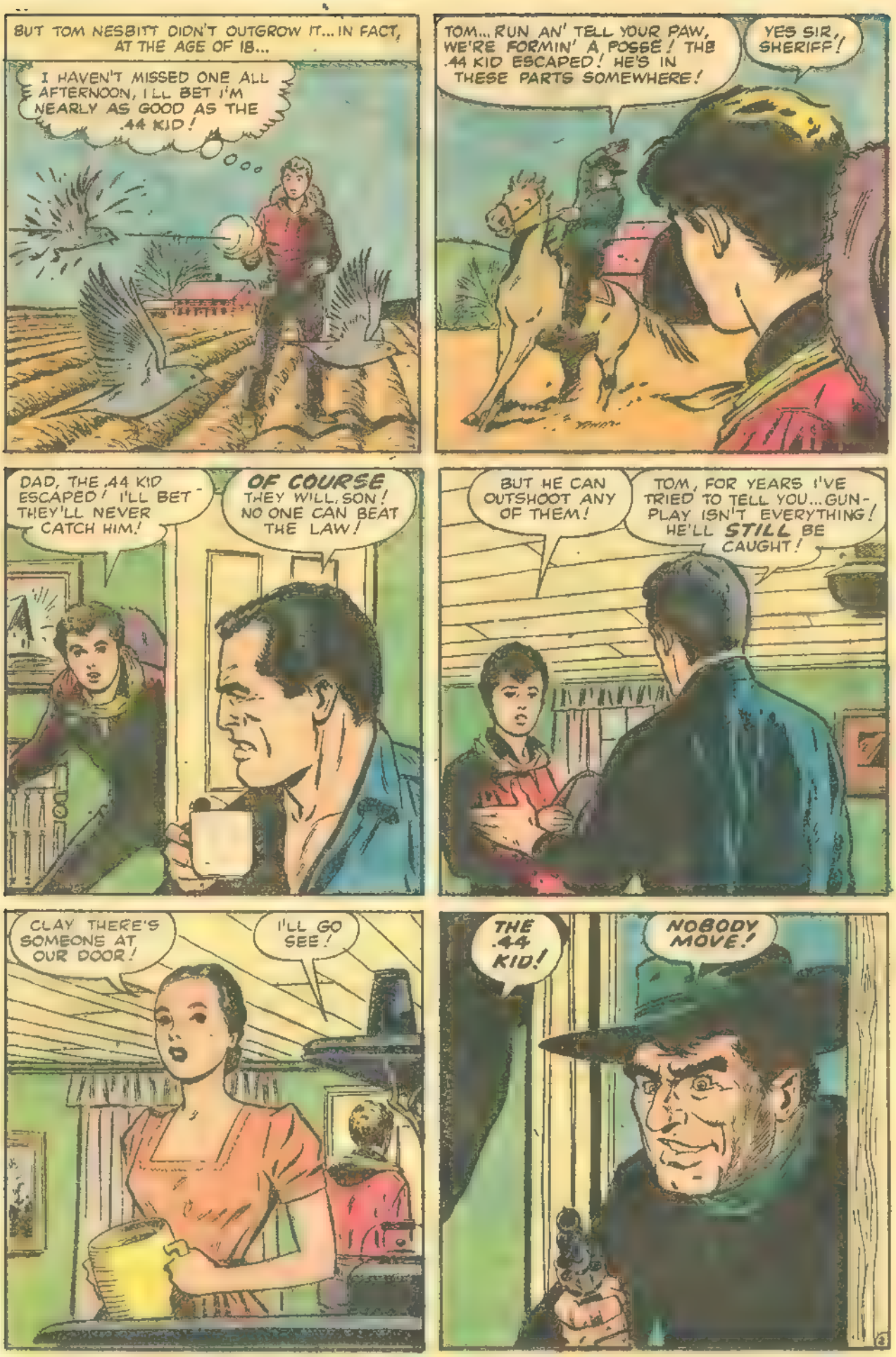
THE GUNMAN

EVER SINCE HE COULD REMEMBER, TOM NESBITT HAD WANTED TO BE A CRACK SHOT!
SOMEDAY, I'LL BE ABLE TO HANDLE YOU LIKE THE A4 KID!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT TOM, CLAY? HE THINKS OF NOTHING BUT GUNS!
DON'T WORRY, DEAR. HE'S STILL YOUNG! HE'LL OUTGROW IT!


BUT TOM NESBITT DIDN'T OUTGROW IT... IN FACT, AT THE AGE OF 18...
I HAVEN'T MISSED ONE ALL AFTERNOON, I'LL BET I'M NEARLY AS GOOD AS THE .44 KID!
TOM... RUN AN' TELL YOUR PAW, WE'RE FORMIN' A POSSE! THE .44 KID ESCAPED! HE'S IN THESE PARTS SOMEWHERE!
YES SIR, SHERIFF!
DAD, THE .44 KID ESCAPED! I'LL BET THEY'LL NEVER CATCH HIM!
OF COURSE THEY WILL, SON! NO ONE CAN BEAT THE LAW!
BUT HE CAN OUTSHOOT ANY OF THEM!
TOM, FOR YEARS I'VE TRIED TO TELL YOU... GUN-PLAY ISN'T EVERYTHING! HE'LL STILL BE CAUGHT!
CLAY THERE'S SOMEONE AT OUR DOOR!
I'LL GO SEE!
THE .44 KID!
NOBODY MOVE!

WHAT DO YOU WANT HERE?
I GOTTA HIDE OUT FOR A WHILE! THE POSSE IS AFTER ME!
GEE! DID YOU REALLY OUTDRAW A 12 MAN POSSE IN YUMA, KID?
SHUT UP! I GOT NO TIME FOR CHATTER!
YOU! GIMME SOME GRUB!
I WOULDN'T FEED A KILLER!
I SAID GIMME SOME GRUB!
LET MY MA ALONE!
THE NEXT ONE WON'T BE JUST IN THE ARM...
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT, KID!
STAY BACK OR YOU'RE NEXT!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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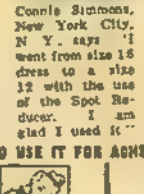
MONEY BACK GUARANTEE



Connie Simmons, New York City, N. Y. says "I went from size 16 dress to a size 12 with the use of the Spot Reducer. I am glad I used it."

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BETTER MAKE SURE YOU STOP ME WITH THE FIRST BULLET... 'CAUSE IF YOU DON'T, I'LL GET YOU!
STAY BACK!
THE STEADY UNWAVERING ATTACK IN THE FACE OF HIS GUN, HAD MADE THE 44 KID SO NERVOUS THAT HE MISSED HIS SHOT AT POINT-BLANK RANGE...
I HEARD SHOTS! YOU GOT 'IM, CLAY! YOU CAUGHT THE .44 KID!
TOM BOY ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I SURE AM, DAD... BUT BEFORE I TELL YUH HOW GREAT YUH WERE, THERE'S SOMETHING I GOTTA DO FIRST...
HERE, SHERIFF! I'D BE OBLIGED IF YOU'D GIVE THIS GUN TO ONE OF YOUR DEPUTIES! I'M NOT INTERESTED IN IT ANY MORE!
THE END

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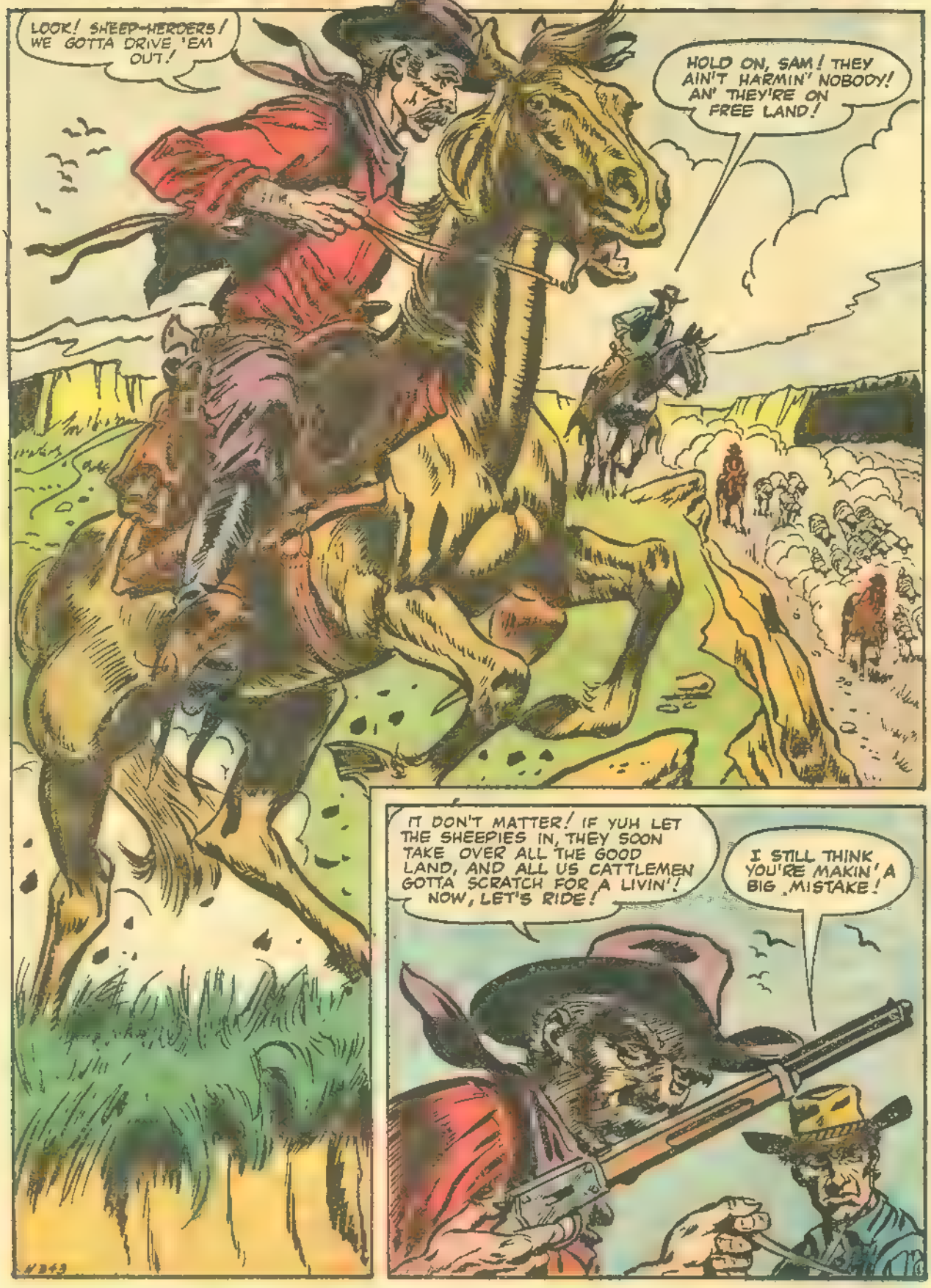
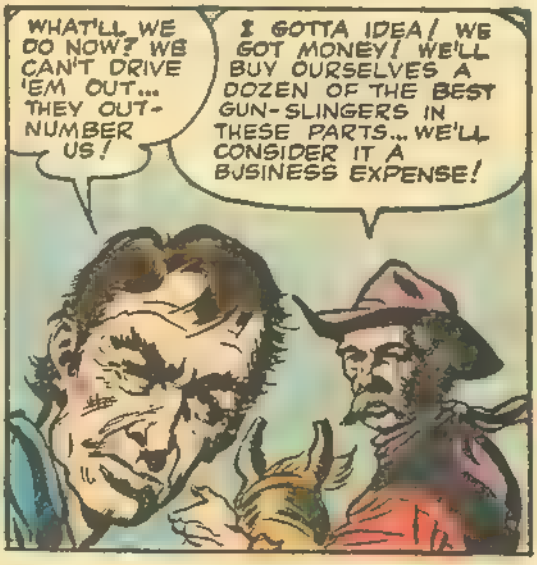
TROUBLE IN TOMBSTONE

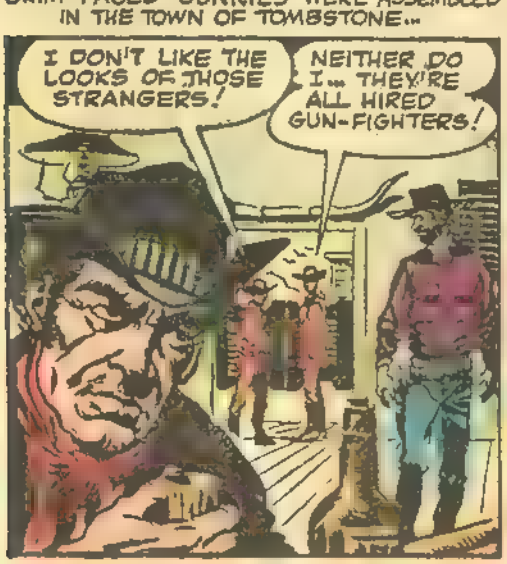

LOOK! SHEEP-HERDERS! WE GOTTA DRIVE 'EM OUT!
HOLD ON, SAM! THEY AIN'T HARMIN' NOBODY! AN' THEY'RE ON FREE LAND!
IT DON'T MATTER! IF YUH LET THE SHEEPIES IN, THEY SOON TAKE OVER ALL THE GOOD LAND, AND ALL US CATTLEMEN GOTTA SCRATCH FOR A LIVIN'! NOW, LET'S RIDE!
I STILL THINK YOU'RE MAKIN' A BIG MISTAKE!

BUT THE SHEEP MEN WERE USED TO THAT KIND OF TREATMENT, AND OUTNUMBERED THEIR FOES THREE TO ONE...

SO IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE THE RANCHERS GAVE UP THE ATTACK...


WHAT'LL WE DO NOW? WE CAN'T DRIVE 'EM OUT... THEY OUTNUMBER US!
I GOTTA IDEA! WE GOT MONEY! WE'LL BUY OURSELVES A DOZEN OF THE BEST GUN-SLINGERS IN THESE PARTS... WE'LL CONSIDER IT A BUSINESS EXPENSE!

SAM WHITE WAS TRUE TO HIS WORD... BEFORE ONE WEEK PASSED, TWELVE GRIM-FACED GUNNIES WERE ASSEMBLED IN THE TOWN OF TOMBSTONE...



AND THEN, THE TIME FOR THE ATTACK ARRIVED...

LET'S GO, MEN, WE'RE CHASIN' THEM CRITTERS!
NOT ME, SAM! I AIN'T TRADIN' SHOTS WITH THOSE HOMBRES!
WE'LL ALL BE GUNNED DOWN! BETTER FORGET IT, SAM!
THEY MUSTA FIGURED THEY COULD MAKE MORE STEALIN' YOUR CATTLE THAN BEIN' PAID FER GUN-FIGHTIN'!
BUT IF THEY GET AWAY WITH MY HERD, I'M RUINED! I'M WIPED OUT!
LISTEN, GUN-SHOTS! ACROSS YONDER RIDGE!
LET'S GO!
IT'S THE SHEEPIES!
THEY'RE FIGHTIN' THE RUSTLERS!
COME ON, WE GOTTA HELP THE SHEEPIES!
I'M WITH YUH!

EVERYTHING WAS GOING FINE TILL YOU BUTTED IN!
NOW I'LL— OHHH!
THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE, AMIGO!
WE GOT 'EM ALL ROUNDED UP! I GUESS THIS CATTLE BELONGS TO YOU! BETTER TAKE IT BACK AFORE IT LOSES TOO MANY POUNDS!
YUH... YUH SAVED MY HERD! WHY?
AFTER ALL, WE'RE GONNA BE NEIGHBORS! I RECKON WE OUGHTTA LEARN TO GET ALONG WITH AND HELP ONE ANOTHER!
HEAR THAT, SAM?
I WAS A BIG FOOL, PARDNER! HERE'S MUH HAND! I HOPE YOU'LL FORGIVE ME!
IT'S A REAL PLEASURE! THIS LAND OF OURS NEEDS CATTLE AND SHEEP, AND THANK THE LORD THAT WE'VE ROOM ENOUGH FOR ALL!
AND SO, THE TROUBLE IN TOMBSTONE CAME TO AN END... AND THE BONDS OF BROTHERHOOD, WHICH HOLD AMERICA TOGETHER, WERE FORGED A LITTLE BIT TIGHTER!
LOOK AT 'EM DOWN THERE... A-GRAZIN' AWAY! SURE ARE PRETTY WHITE CRITTERS, AIN'T THEY?
THEY SHORE ARE, SAM!
THE END

...CONTINUED

in. "I've still got dad's old Navy Colt home. It really belongs to you, since you're the eldest son, and since you can really handle a gun."

Walt Merrow looked at him in silence for a moment.

"I don't want the gun," he said. "Guns aren't my way."

Banker Hanslow and the others glanced up in surprise.

"Don't want the gun!" the banker gasped. "Why you'd have to be loco to go around in this town without a gun!"

"I don't want a gun," Walt said stubbornly. "Sure, I'm a crack shot . . . but that was in the army. In the army you've got to handle guns. But it's peacetime, and you're making me a peace officer. Guns don't keep a peace, though they can break it."

Hanslow gulped.

"But you'll be unarmed, helpless, at the mercy of every . . ."

"Unarmed, yes," Walt broke in. "As for being helpless, we'll see!"

Next morning he rode into town from Joe's spread. With the authority vested in him by the council he hired a small office and hung out his Sheriff sign. Toward evening, after the organization of the formal town government, he was officially installed by Hanslow who had been elected mayor. Hanslow watched him leave the newly created town hall with many misgivings, intending to drop in on Merrow the following morning and give him some sage advice.

But when he came, the following morning, he came running. He burst into Walt Merrow's office, red-faced and wide-eyed.

"What's this I hear about Rud Rankin, Tom Hitchings and Tom's brother Ed leaving town?" he demanded. "Drew out their accounts this morning at nine . . . and left on the first train!"

"Left already, eh?" Walt Merrow said, smiling.

"You . . . you mean you had something to do with their leaving?" the banker asked, astonished.

"Sure," Merrow said. "You talked a lot about lawless elements . . . but you had the wrong elements in mind. Those tough-looking galoots are just what they always were . . . waddies in search of honest work. There's plenty in Prairieville and more jobs every day. In a week or so every one of 'em will be working on spreads and sleeping in bunkhouses. As for the real lawless elements . . . well, I just went around, asking questions. The only shady characters were those three who just left town. They hadn't done anything, and I stepped in to warn them before they could. I just told 'em there'd be law and justice and a court in Prairieville from now on . . . and they kinda saw the light . . ." He paused, chuckling, and patted his tin star. Then he reached down and pulled open a drawer in his desk.

Hanslow's eyes almost popped as he saw what was in the desk . . . a big heap of six-guns.

"Went around last night, collecting 'em," Walt said.

"You mean you took those guns from those tough lobos?"

"I told you they weren't lobos . . . even if they are tough. They're tough, all right, because it takes tough men to make the West, but they're also honest and honest men respect the law . . . when it's there. Well, I was there, askin' for guns, and so was my tin star. I just pointed out that where there's law it's better protection to any man than a thousand guns!" He shut the drawer. "When they leave town, they can have the guns back, but so long as they stay here . . . the guns stay in my desk."

"You did it!" Hanslow said admiringly. "One lone man did it! You've brought law and order to our town!"

THE END H-440

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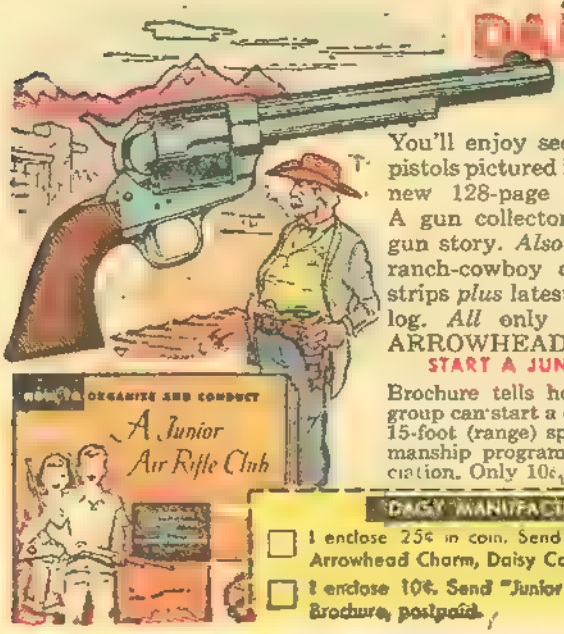

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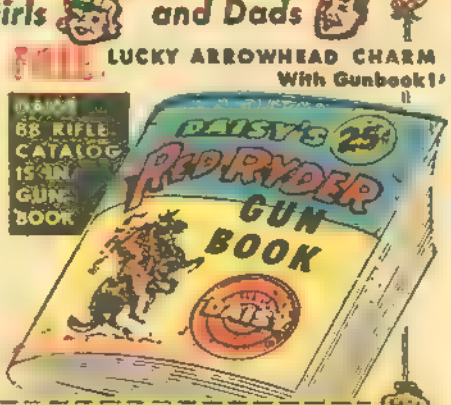

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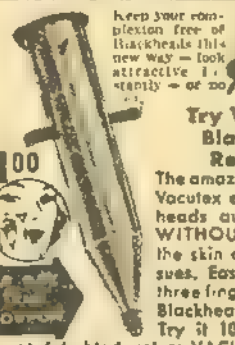

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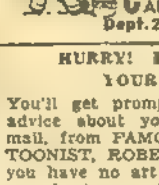

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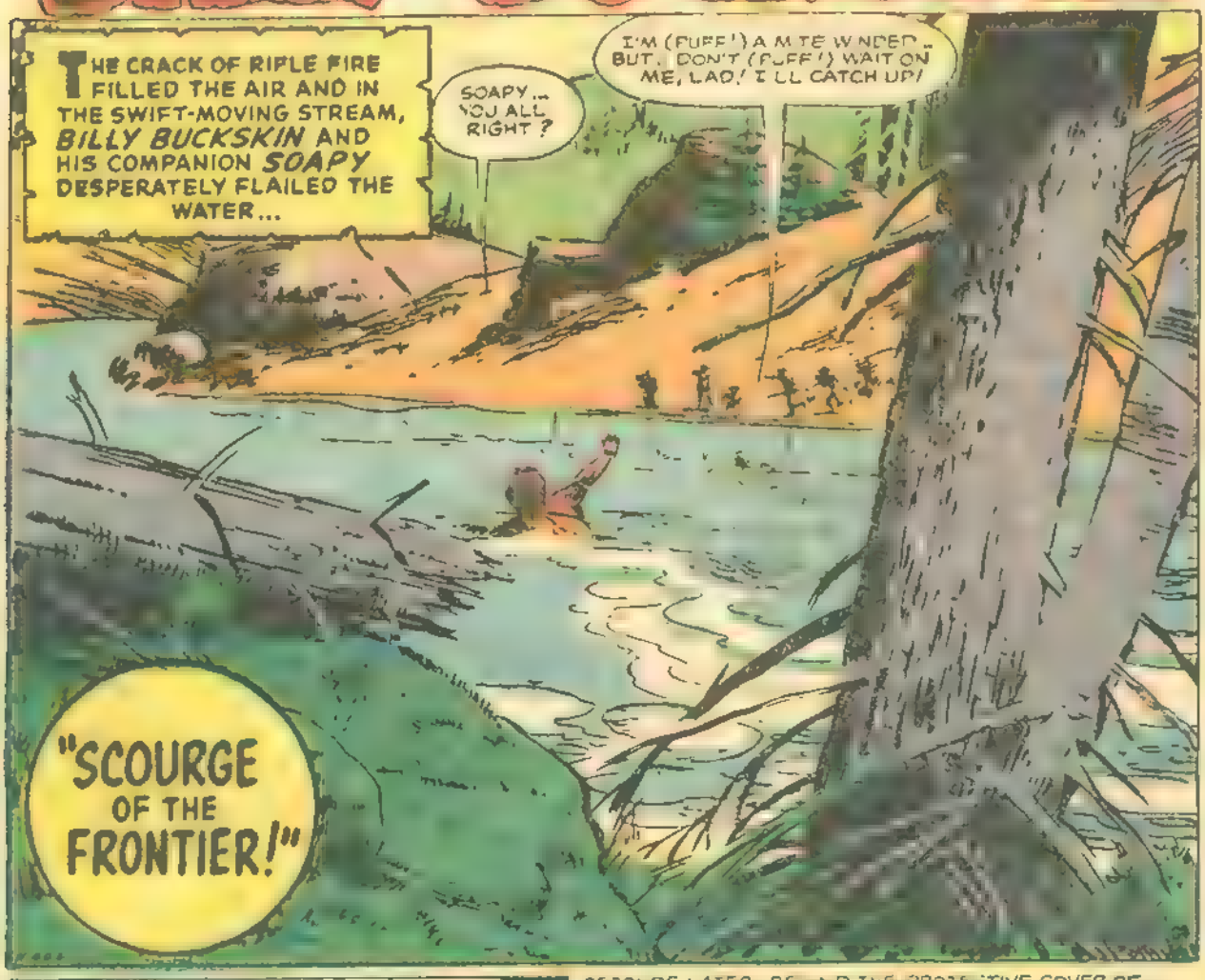
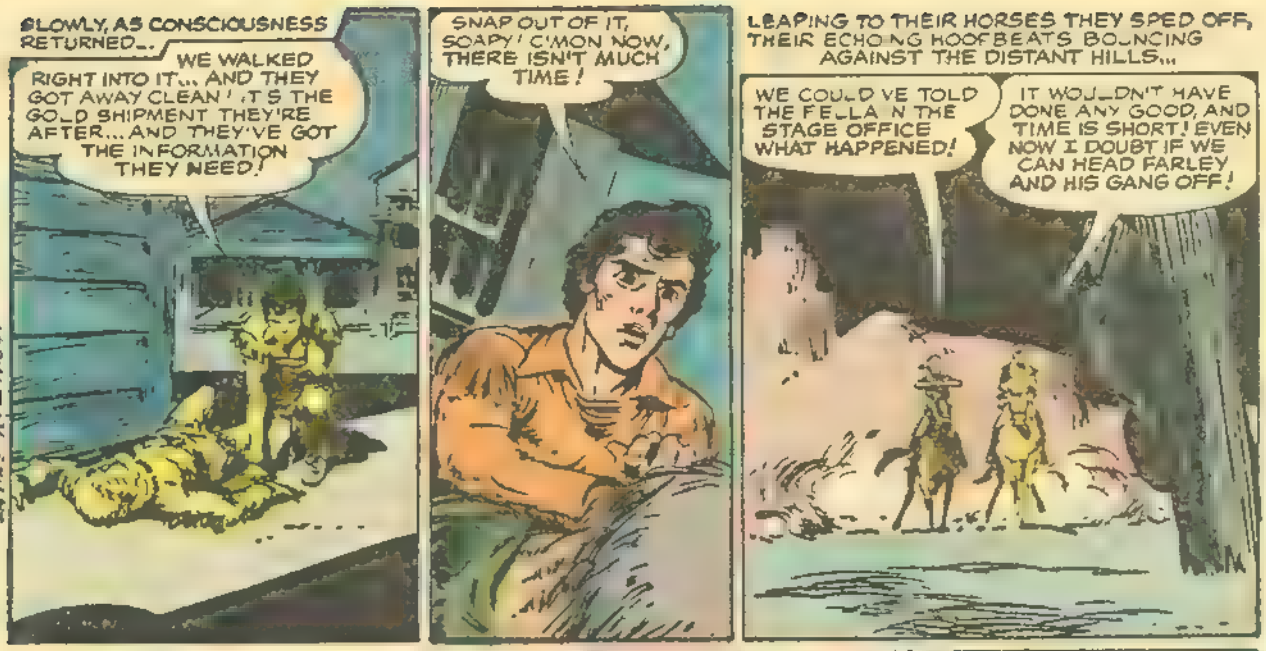
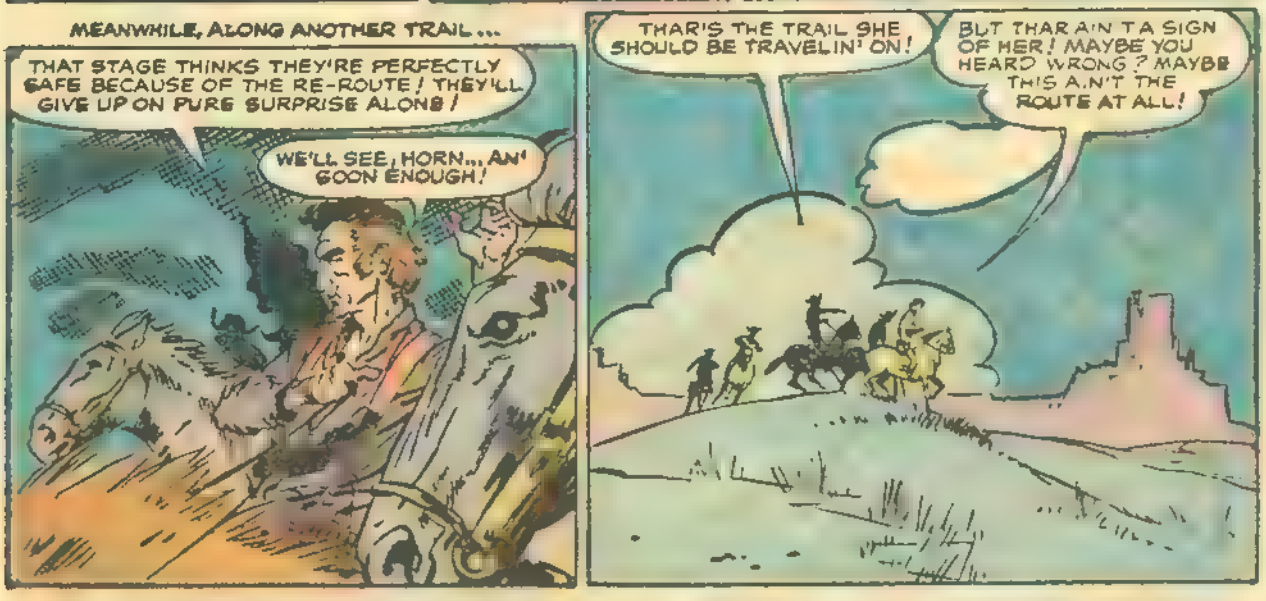

THE CRACK OF RIFLE FIRE FILLED THE AIR AND IN THE SWIFT-MOVING STREAM, BILLY BUCKSKIN AND HIS COMPANION SOAPY DESPERATELY FLAILED THE WATER...
SOAPY... YOU ALL RIGHT?
I'M (PUFF!) A MITE WINDED... BUT, DON'T (PUFF!) WAIT ON ME, LAD! I'LL CATCH UP!
"SCOURGE OF THE FRONTIER!"

SECONDS LATER BEHIND THE PROTECTIVE COVER OF SOME CLUSTERED WEEDS...
THANKS, BILLY! I (GASP!) RECKON I WAS MORE TIRED THAN I KNEW!
YOU CATCH YOUR BREATH NOW! WE'LL BE SAFE HERE FOR A WHILE!

MEANWHILE, ON THE OPPOSITE BANK...
I DUNNO, FARLEY, BUT IT'S MY HUNCH THEY MADE IT!
MAYBE SO, BUT I THINK THEY GOT IT THROUGH THEIR HEADS THAT WE MEAN BUSINESS!
AND ONE OF THESE DAYS THAT SNOOPIN' BILLY BUCKSKIN IS GOIN TO TRY HIS LUCK TOO FAR... AN' WHEN HE DOES, IT'S GONNA BE TOO LATE FOR HIM TUH MEND HIS WAYS!
WHAT ABOUT OUR PLANS? DO THEY STILL HOLD?
'COURSE THEY DO! NOW BE OFF FER TOWN, AN' BRING BACK THE INFORMATION I WANT!
A SHORT WHILE LATER, BEFORE A SMALL FIRE DEEP IN THE WOODS...
I CAN BE WRONG, BUT TAKIN' ON CHUCK FARLEY AND HIS CREW MIGHT BE MORE THAN WE CIN HANDLE!
WHAT I MEAN IS... HUH!
CUT IT, BILLY! I WAS ONLY SPOOFIN'... HEY!
THEN, BEFORE SOAPY'S STARTLED EYES...
A RATTLER! AN' I THOUGHT YOU WERE... WELL DOGGONE, THAT MAKES THE SECOND TIME YUH SAVED MY LIFE TODAY! GOLLY, AIN'T THERE SOME WAY TO SHOW MY THANKS?
SURE... BY HURRYING INTO YOUR CLOTHES, SO WE CAN RIDE INTO TOWN!

TWO FAMILIAR FIGURES RODE INTO STARKVILLE JUST BEFORE DUSK...
GOOD DAY, BILLY! IT'S NICE SEEING YOU IN STARKVILLE AGAIN!
THANK YOU, MA'AM! IT'S A PLEASURE BEING HERE!
SUDDENLY...
OVER THERE, BILLY! AIN'T THOSE TWO OF FARLEY'S MEN ENTERIN' THE ALLEY?
IT SURE LOOKS IT! WE'LL DISMOUNT AND FOLLOW THEM ON FOOT!
AND INSIDE THE ALLEY AT THE SIDE WINDOW OF THE STAGE OFFICE...
C'N YUH HEAR ANYTHIN'?
YEAH, WE RE IN LUCK! THEY'RE TALKIN' ABOUT IT RIGHT NOW!
WE'VE RE-ROUTED YOUR GOLD SHIPMENT ALONG GREAT HORN GORGE - THERE ISN'T ANOTHER PERSON WHO KNOWS ABOUT THIS OTHER THAN US, MR. NELSON, AND THE MEN RIDING THE STAGE!
I SURE HOPE IT GETS THROUGH, MR. FERRIS!
NOW, BILLY?
I RECKON SO! LET'S GIVE 'EM THE BIGGEST SURPRISE OF THEIR LIVES!
BUT AS THEY SLIPPED FORWARD, THE SURPRISE WAS SUDDENLY ON THEM!
OHH...
THIS TIME YOUR LUCK'S RUN OUT!
WOK
WHAT ABOUT THESE TWO?
THERE'S NOTHIN' MORE WE CAN DO NOW WITHOUT BRING N' THE WHOLE TOWN DOWN ON US! BESIDES, THEY'LL HOLD TILL WE FINISH OUR BUSINESS!
3


SLOWLY, AS CONSCIOUSNESS RETURNED...
WE WALKED RIGHT INTO IT... AND THEY GOT AWAY CLEAN! IT'S THE GOLD SHIPMENT THEY'RE AFTER... AND THEY'VE GOT THE INFORMATION THEY NEED!
SNAP OUT OF IT, SOAPY! C'MON NOW, THERE ISN'T MUCH TIME!
LEAPING TO THEIR HORSES THEY SPED OFF, THEIR ECHOING HOOFBEATS BOUNCING AGAINST THE DISTANT HILLS...
WE COULD'VE TOLD THE FELLA IN THE STAGE OFFICE WHAT HAPPENED!
IT WOULDN'T HAVE DONE ANY GOOD, AND TIME IS SHORT! EVEN NOW I DOUBT IF WE CAN HEAD FARLEY AND HIS GANG OFF!


MEANWHILE, ALONG ANOTHER TRAIL...
THAT STAGE THINKS THEY'RE PERFECTLY SAFE BECAUSE OF THE RE-ROUTE! THEY'LL GIVE UP ON PURG SURPRISE ALONG!
WE'LL SEE, HORN... AN' SOON ENOUGH!
THAR'S THE TRAIL SHE SHOULD BE TRAVELIN' ON!
BUT THAR AIN'T A SIGN OF HER! MAYBE YOU HEARD WRONG? MAYBE THIS AIN'T THE ROUTE AT ALL!

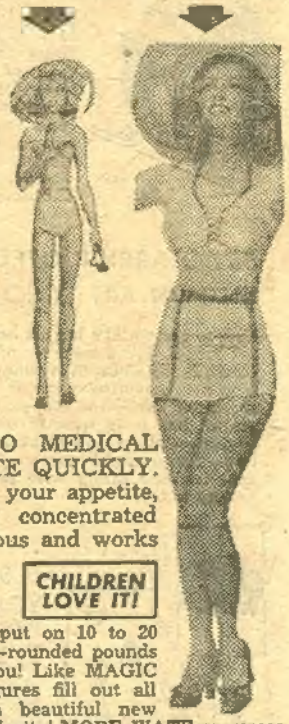
FATEFUL MINUTES TICKED BY, AND AS PATIENCE THINNED TO THE BURSTING POINT...
LOOK, FARLEY! THAR SHE BE! SHE'S COMIN'!
GOOD! DOWN WE GO!
DOWN THEY SWOOPED, LIKE A NIGHTHAWK AFTER ITS PREY...
SLOW 'ER DOWN... PRONTO!
DON'T SHOOT!

THE STAGE GROUND TO A HALT AND SOON THE STRONGBOX HAD CHANGED HANDS...
NOW YOU'LL CLIMB BACK UP AN' GIT GOIN' .. BUT REMEMBER, ONE WRONG MOVE...
THAR WON'T BE ANY!
BUT SUDDENLY A SHARP COMMAND RANG OUT...
THAT'S AS FAR AS YOU GO, FARLEY! FREEZE!
HUH?
WHY, I'LL... OW-WW!
WHAR ARE THEY? THAR'S NO ONE IN SIGHT!
AND FROM THE UNDERSIDE OF THE STAGE CAME THE CHALLENGING REPLY...
HERE WE BE, YUH BUZZARDS! MAKE SOMETHING OF IT!
THE PANICKED OUTLAWS FELL EASY VICTIMS .
THAT'S ALL FOR YOU, FARLEY!
MINUTES LATER, WHEN THE SUBDUED OUTLAWS WERE SECURELY TIED...
IT SURE WAS LUCKY YOU CAUGHT UP WITH US IN TIME!
BUT THE BEST PART WAS YORE IDEA TUH HIDE UNDER THE STAGE! THEY NEVER KNEW WHAT HIT 'EM!
RECKON YOU CAN DELIVER THIS PASSLE OF COYOTES ALONG WITH THE GOLD?
WE SURE CAN, BILLY... THANKS TO YOU!
THE END
5

GAIN WEIGHT stop being SKINNY!

Now at last—QUICKLY—EASILY put firm, attractive pounds and inches on your body, chest, arms and legs.

DON'T STAY SKINNY! GO FROM THIS TO THIS!



or your money back!

Amazing New Way developed by modern medical science to put on weight on lean bodies. **Guaranteed to give you up to an extra pound a day! Or your money back!** Why should you dread going to parties and socials, simply because you look scrawny and spindly? Why ever feel self-conscious about your body again? If you're **underweight*** . . . or just a little on the thin side, due to faulty appetite, or bad dietary habits, you can **put on up to a pound a day of attractive weight** without exercise . . . dangerous drugs . . . or special diet . . . and more quickly, more easily than you ever dreamed possible . . . with MORE-WATE. MORE-WATE contains no dangerous drugs . . . you **eat it like candy!** Yet . . . if you were to have this same prescription compounded to your order, it would cost you many times more. However, through this introductory offer, you can obtain **quick-acting** MORE-WATE tablets . . . a 30 day supply for only $2.98, with an absolute money-back guarantee! Yes, try MORE-WATE for TEN DAYS . . . and if not entirely delighted with weight gained, return the unused supply for full refund! You've nothing to lose . . . and **weight to gain!** Act now! Stop being the guy or the gal that everyone calls "skinny." Stop being the guy or the gal who dreads summer and going to parties and socials because it means everyone will enjoy themselves and you won't. Don't be a wallflower, because you have a figure like a broomstick! **Gain more weight!**

IN JUST 24 HOURS START GAINING WEIGHT

The fast acting MORE-WATE tablets are **unconditionally guaranteed** to put on weight . . . or it doesn't cost you a penny! MORE-WATE is a **delicious,** full strength, fast acting tablet . . . that combines not just one . . . or two . . . but 4 of the most amazing aids for **gaining weight** known to medical science. MORE-WATE is not a liquid . . . not a powder. It's a delicious, **pleasant-tasting tablet!** It contains vitamin B-12 . . . the **amazing red vitamin doctors** give many **underweight patients** in **hospitals** . . . It contains Iron that helps correct iron deficiency, anemia and builds rich, red blood. It contains appetite-building vitamin B-1 . . . and it contains nutritious easily assimilated malt, the amazing ingredient that helps your body turn much of the food you eat into **well rounded flesh** instead of being wasted. **That's the secret of putting on weight.** Now you can help your food to **add new pounds** to your **arms, chest, hips, thighs,** and **legs.** Now you don't have to be skinny . . . or afraid to be seen socially and be ashamed of your figure! **You must achieve the figure you want . . . or don't pay anything** Act now!

MORE-WATE is the newest discovery of medical science—entirely safe! Not a drug—not a medicine . . . Instead, a delicious weight-adding tablet that helps your body build new pounds of HEALTHY, ATTRACTIVE body weight! You gain SOLID good-looking flesh AUTOMATICALLY wherever you need it—on face, neck, bust, arms, legs, ankles, etc. (all over!)

START GAINING WEIGHT in 24 HOURS! Amazing new MORE-WATE puts on weight FASTER THAN ANYTHING KNOWN TO MEDICAL SCIENCE! If you LOSE APPETITE QUICKLY. . . . If you fill up at meals and lose your appetite, take MORE-WATE, the amazing concentrated **fast acting** tablet that tastes delicious and works **weight-gaining** wonders.

CHILDREN LOVE IT!

WHY BE SKINNY?

Now you can quickly put on 10 to 20 pounds or more of well-rounded pounds so fast it will amaze you! Like MAGIC skinny, broom-stick figures fill out all over the body into a beautiful new "LOOK" that wins popularity! MORE-WATE promotes appetite, new pep, vigor and red-blooded vitality. DON'T BE SKINNY! SEND FOR MORE-WATE delicious tasting, fast acting tablets TODAY!

TEST AT OUR RISK

Mail the coupon below for your generous supply of MORE-WATE! Only $2.98 for full generous supply or $8 for the triple generous large economy size on the guarantee if the first package doesn't increase your weight to your satisfaction, return the empty package for full money-back refund. MAIL THE COUPON NOW! CHILDREN—get mom or dad to order for you!

MAIL THIS NO-RISK COUPON TODAY!

MORE-WATE CO., Dept. M138
318 Market St., Newark, New Jersey

☐ SEND ONE large generous supply of MORE-WATE. I enclose $2.98 cash, check or M.O., on GUARANTEE I must be delighted with first package or money-back when I return empty package. (I save up to 90c by sending payment with order.

☐ CHECK HERE IF YOU WANT 3 for $8. (Save $3.)

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ Zone____ State_____

SENT ON APPROVAL — MAKE AMAZING 10-DAY TEST

Draw me!

TRY FOR A FREE 2-YEAR ART SCHOLARSHIP WORTH $335.00

If you like to draw or sketch, you may have talent worth training. Find out! Enter this contest. You may *win* two years of free training for a fascinating career in art! Imagine yourself a professional artist making money with the pictures you draw. Big money is paid for advertising art, cartooning and magazine illustrating. It's important, satisfying work —and there's room for *you* in the art field. Thousands of artists are needed today.

SCHOLARSHIP OFFERED BY WELL KNOWN ART SCHOOL

This is the world's largest home study art school. It's a member of National Home Study Council, Washington, D.C. You may never have heard of *Art Instruction, Inc.*—but for 40 years this school has been quietly discovering beginner-artists and training them at home for profitable careers. Its graduates include many who make good money today.

AS SCHOLARSHIP WINNER YOU GET: TWO YEARS OF FREE TRAINING from professional artists. We guide you—coach you—individually. You follow step-by-step instructions—submit drawings—get back helpful corrections, encouragement! *You also receive* ART TEXTBOOKS illustrated in color and including work of over 40 leading artists—*plus* a complete PROFESSIONAL DRAWING OUTFIT!

HERE'S ALL YOU HAVE TO DO:

JUST DRAW THIS GIRL'S HEAD!

Draw this girl's head 5 inches high. Use pencil only. All drawings must be received by Dec. 31, 1955. None returned. Winner notified. Only amateurs may enter this contest. Our students not eligible. Mail your sketch of the famous "Draw Me" girl today!

USE 1 COUPON THEN PASS THIS ANNOUNCEMENT ON TO YOUR FRIENDS!

Art Instruction, Inc. STUDIO 11945-1
500 South 4th St., Minneapolis 15, Minn.
Please enter my attached drawing in your contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME_____ AGE____
ADDRESS_____ APT.____
CITY_____ ZONE____
COUNTY_____ STATE____
OCCUPATION_____ PHONE____

Art Instruction, Inc STUDIO 11945-3
500 South 4th St., Minneapolis 15, Minn.
Please enter my attached drawing in your contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME_____ AGE____
ADDRESS_____ APT.____
CITY_____ ZONE____
COUNTY_____ STATE____
OCCUPATION_____ PHONE____

Art Instruction, Inc. STUDIO 11945-2
500 South 4th St., Minneapolis 15, Minn.
Please enter my attached drawing in your contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME_____ AGE____
ADDRESS_____ APT.____
CITY_____ ZONE____
COUNTY_____ STATE____
OCCUPATION_____ PHONE____

I WILL TRAIN YOU AT HOME FOR GOOD PAY JOBS IN RADIO-TELEVISION

J. E. SMITH has trained more men for Radio-Television than any other man. OUR 40th YEAR.

America's Fast Growing Industry Offers You Good Pay—Bright Future—Security

I TRAINED THESE MEN

"Started to repair sets six months after enrolling. Earned $12 to $15 a week in spare time."—Adam Kramlik, Jr., Sunneytown, Pennsylvania.

"Up to our necks in Radio-Television work. Four other NRI men work here. Am happy with my work."—Glen Peterson, Bradford, Ont., Canada.

"Am doing Radio and Television Servicing full time. Now have my own shop. I owe my success to N.R.I."—Curtis Stath, Ft. Madison, Iowa.

"Am with WCOC. NRI course can't be beat. No trouble passing 1st class Radio-phone license exam."—Jesse W. Parker, Meridian, Mississippi.

"By the time I graduated I had paid for my course, a car and testing equipment. Can service toughest jobs."—E. J. Streitenberger, New Boston, Ohio.

Training plus opportunity is the PERFECT COMBINATION for job security, good pay, advancement. In good times, the trained man makes the BETTER PAY, GETS PROMOTED. When jobs are scarce, the trained man enjoys GREATER SECURITY. NRI training can help assure you more of the better things of life.

Start Soon to Make $10, $15 a Week Extra Fixing Sets

Keep your job while training. I start sending you special booklets that show you how to fix sets the day you enroll. Multitester built with parts I send helps you make $10, $15 a week extra fixing sets while training. Many start their own Radio-Television business with spare time earnings.

My Training Is Up-To-Date

You benefit by my 40 years' experience training men at home. Well illustrated lessons give you basic principles you need. Skillfully developed kits of parts I send (see below) "bring to life" things you learn from lessons.

AVAILABLE TO VETERANS UNDER G.I. BILLS

You Learn by Practicing with Parts I Send

Nothing takes the place of PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE. That's why NRI training is based on LEARNING BY DOING. You use parts I furnish to build many circuits common to Radio and Television. As part of my Communications Course, you build many things, including low power transmitter shown at left. You put it "on the air," perform procedures required of broadcasting operators. With my Servicing Course you build modern Radio, etc. Use Multitester you build to make money fixing sets. Many students make $10, $15 week extra fixing neighbors' sets in spare time while training. Coupon below will bring book showing other equipment you build. It's all yours to keep.

The Tested Way To Better Pay!

Television Making Good Jobs, Prosperity—Even without Television, Radio is bigger than ever. 115 million home and auto Radios to be serviced. Over 3000 Radio broadcasting stations use operators, technicians, engineers. Government, Aviation, Police, Ship, Micro-wave Relay, Two-Way Radio Communications for buses, taxis, trucks, etc., are important and growing fields. Television is moving ahead fast.

About 200 Television stations are now on the air. Hundreds of others being built. Good TV jobs opening up for Technicians, Operators, etc.

25 million homes now have Television sets. Thousands more are being sold every week. Get a job or have your own business selling, installing, servicing.

Radio-TV Needs Men of Action—Mail Coupon

Act now to get more of the good things of life. Actual lesson proves my training is practical, thorough. 64-page book shows good job opportunities for you in many fields. Take NRI training for as little as $5 a month. Many graduates make more than total cost of training in two weeks. Mail coupon now. J. E. SMITH, President, National Radio Institute, Dept. 6AM1, Washington 9, D. C. OUR 40TH YEAR.

Good for Both—FREE

MR. J. E. SMITH, President, Dept. 6AM1.
National Radio Institute, Washington 9, D. C.
Mail me Sample Lesson and 64-page Book, FREE.
(No salesman will call. Please write plainly.)

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone ____ State _____

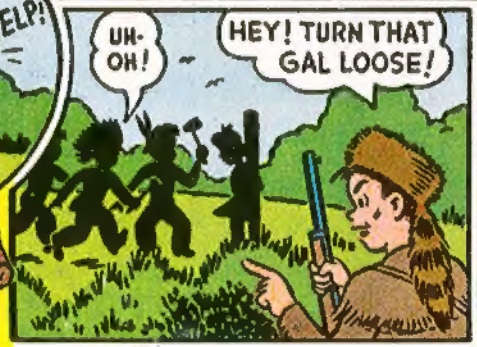
VETS write in date of discharge _____

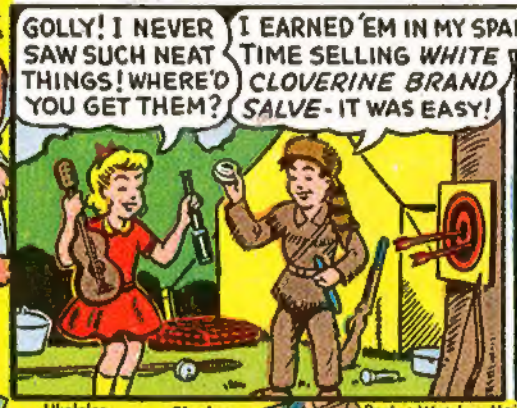
"APPROVED MEMBER, NATIONAL HOME STUDY COUNCIL"

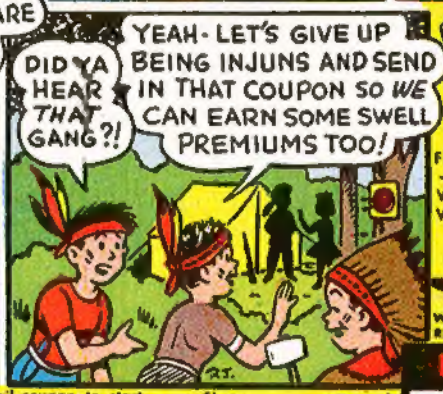
DAVY TO THE RESCUE!

GIVEN! BOYS! GIRLS! LADIES! MEN!

WE GIVE YOU CASH OR PREMIUMS!




GOLLY! I NEVER SAW SUCH NEAT THINGS! WHERE'D YOU GET THEM?
I EARNED 'EM IN MY SPARE TIME SELLING WHITE CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE - IT WAS EASY!



Bibles
Dolls
Footballs
Radios
Skates
LOOK! LIVE PONY! Yessiree, a real, live Pony for your very own.
Swim Masks
Swim Fins
Cameras
ACT NOW! WE TRUST YOU
Pen and Pencil Sets
Doll Watches
Fishing Sets
Alarm Clocks
Wallets
Typewriters
Games
Bicycles
Blankets
Pen and Pencil Sets
Ukeleles
Mail coupon
Clocks
Pocket Watches
Blankets
Skates
Mail coupon to start.
BE FIRST
MAIL CARD
ACT NOW!
Archery Sets
Lucite Dresser Sets
Pocket Watches
Alum-inum Ware
Clocks
WE TRUST YOU
Flash-lights
Wallets
Wagons.
Mail coupon.
Cameras
Ukuleles
Telescopes
Clocks
Pearls
Dolls
ACT NOW!
MAIL CARD
Rifles

MAIL COUPON GET BIG CATALOG

Candid Cameras with carrying case, Telescopes, Watches (sent ppd.) SIMPLY GIVE pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE easily sold to friends, neighbors, relatives at 35c a box (with picture). Alarm Clocks, Billfolds, Bibles, Blankets, Movie Machines, Pen & Pencil Sets, Record Players, Roller Skates, Telescopes.

WE ARE RELIABLE

IT'S FUN!

WHITE CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE PRICE 35¢

Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping

MAIL NOW!

Wilson Chemical Co. Dept. 148-40 Tyrone, Pa. Date.....

Gentlemen:- Please send me on trial 14 colorful art pictures with 14 boxes of White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE to sell at 35c a box (with picture). I will remit amount asked within 30 days, select a Premium or keep Cash Commission as explained under Premium wanted in catalog sent with order, postage paid to start.

NAME _____ AGE _____

ST. _____ R. D. ___ BOX _____

TOWN _____ ZONE NO. ___ STATE _____

PRINT LAST NAME HERE

Paste coupon on postal card or mail in envelope today

WILSON CHEMICAL CO., Dept. 148-40 Tyrone, Pa.

OUR 61ST YEAR • WE ARE RELIABLE! MAIL COUPON NOW! WE TRUST YOU